

Talk with ADE

Friday April 27, 2007
Balsz Elementary District Board Room
10:00 AM

- Welcome by Colette Chapman
- Colette updated the group on legislative bills.
 - Two bills were signed by the governor
 - HB 2184 will add that a child with a disability does not include a child if the determinant factor is lack of appropriate instruction in reading and math
 - HB 2393 – ADE will be able to appoint surrogate parents. We are currently working on policies and procedures. It will go into effect 90 days after the legislature closes
 - HB 2251 is now in the Public Safety and Human Services Committee. This would allow a student that turns 22 during the school year receiving special education would be allowed to continue through the school year receiving services. It has passed the House and Senate and it will go back to the House to pass the bill with amendments. Colette suggested contacting the sponsor or representative if you oppose the bill.
- Assistive Technology
 - Matthew Press from ADE presented some information on the assistive technology department within ADE.
 - The goal is to build capacity, enabling the districts to meet their own AT needs with the support of the technology specialists at the department of education.
 - ADE has a loan library which is free of charge to districts. All the district has to do is sign the equipment loan agreement. It is a 4-week loan program and is housed at NAU. The products are shipped to and from the schools without cost.
 - The Tech for Learning Community workshop schedule is on the ADE event calendar.
 - The ADE AT Specialists provide training and technical assistance on demand. Call or email for support!
- NIMAC/NIMAS
 - NIMAC (National Instructional Materials Access Center)
 - NIMAS (National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard)
 - The key issue is timely access to appropriate and accessible instructional materials inherent in a public agency's obligation under IDEA to ensure FAPE is available to all children with disabilities to enable them to participate in the general curriculum consistent with their IEP's
 - LEAs may opt in or opt out of NIMAC. It may be a good idea to opt in because most publishers are only giving materials to NIMAC. This will also require publishers to submit NIMAS conforming file sets to the NIMAC.
 - LEAs that opt out will be responsible for assuring that blind and other persons with disabilities receive specialized versions of print materials in a timely manner.

➤ Lisa Andrew

- Lisa asked for ideas for the next Director's Institute. Some suggestions were made and she will bring them to Miriam Podrazik for consideration.
- Lisa introduced Debra Coleman, a new specialist with ADE. Debra showed a draft the new newsletter for the CSPD department. It will be sent out more often and electronically.

➤ Roberta Brown on private schools/vouchers

- Roberta discussed the proposed changes for ED-P criteria which will take effect for the 07-08 school year.
 - Being a danger to self or others will be deleted.
 - Indication of possible mental illness with need for mental health services
 - Exhibits behaviors with intensity and duration that exceeds that of students served in self-contained setting
 - Requires structure which provides additional supervision and environmental safety
 - Maximum of 10 students with teacher and full-time paraprofessional with the addition of a third paraprofessional available for crisis intervention and behavior management
 - Therapeutic counseling provided on a regular basis which may include, as determined by the IEP team, one on one and small group counseling for student(s) and/or parent(s) and crisis intervention
 - Psychiatric consultation availability will be deleted.
 - Recommended: inclusion of Exit criteria with a transition plan to increase return students to a less restrictive environment
 - Notification to ADE School Finance Division of the date a change in placement occurred in order to change the census category
 - Paraprofessional will be added under Teacher's Aide/Behavioral Tech
 - Basic counseling skills will be deleted
 - ED Certified or Cross-Categorical Certified with an additional 20 hours of training in teaching students with Emotional Disabilities
 - Delete emergency certification
 - Add Highly qualified
 - Qualifications to match Maximus standards for medicaid reimbursement
 - Training for parents to be advocates will be deleted.
- There will be a new form for the 07-08 school year for students entered into a short term placement (less than 60 days). This will be the Alternate Initial Education Voucher Application. This will not require a home school district packet. If the student is receiving special education services the IEP should be forwarded to the residential facility for implementation.
- ADE is working with DBHS to develop a new IGA / ISA that will address residential placements and other areas in which the two agencies have common concerns

➤ Colette asked for the director's suggestions for the future format of "Talk with ADE."

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday September 28, 2007.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.